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ABSTRACT

Seven issues of a newsletter on recent library statistics provide information on Colorado public libraries, librarian and library assistant salaries, materials challenges, school library media centers, and circulation policies. One 1995 library survey compares average public library salaries with and without an American Library Association (ALA)-accredited Masters of Library Science (MLS), and compares Colorado salaries with national and regional averages. Another survey was conducted to determine prevailing salaries and related data for Public Information Officers (PIOs) in public libraries. One edition of "Fast Facts" provides a comparison of 1994 average hourly wages of librarians and library assistants with related occupations. A report on the location of public libraries showed that over half of public library outlets in Colorado and the nation are located in non-metropolitan areas-public libraries. They can serve as access points to electronically networked information for those who cannot afford or cannot easily obtain a computer with a modem and a subscription to a commercial online service or Internet access provider. Another issue reported on the materials challenges in Colorado public libraries in 1995. One issue provides a status report for Colorado school library media centers for 1995-96. A June 1996 survey of metropolitan libraries in Colorado and nationwide investigated and compared circulation policies for different format materials. (SWC)

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ED 416 898

Fast Facts: Recent Statistics from the Library Research Service, Nos. 116-122 March-November 1996

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FAST FACTS

Recent Statistics from The Library Research Service

ED3/110.10/No. 116 March 14, 1996

MLS DEGREE WORTH $8,000 TO $28,000 MORE A YEAR IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Average Colorado Public Library Salaries 1995

Position	*Average Salary With ALA-MLS Degree*	*Number*	*Average Salary Without ALA-MLS Degree*	*Number*
Director	$ 46,038	46	$ 18,147	70
Assistant Director	$ 45,398	9	$ 17,006	27
Branch/Department Head	$ 37,184	20	$ 25,398	28
Reference/Adult Services	$ 31,341	15	$ 23,346	13
Cataloger	$ 31,244	11	$ 20,868	8
AV-Media	$ 31,209	4	$ 29,030	2
Computer Specialist	$ 30,195	5	$ 32,042	10
Interlibrary Loan Librarian	$ 29,327	6	$ 20,025	19
Children's Librarian	$ 30,994	19	$ 20,205	21
Starting Librarian	$ 30,310	15	$ 17,783	10

The only categories where an American Library Association accredited masters of library science degree (ALA-MLS) was not an advantage in earnings were AV-Media and Computer Specialist. AV-Media includes staff at combined school and public libraries where media specialists are paid school district salaries. Computer specialists often have other degrees. For all others, having an MLS means $8,000 to $28,000 more in salary.

1995 Colorado salary ranges are adjusted to 40 hours per week and averaged for each. Branch Head and Department Head are collapsed into one category for the purpose of comparison with the Branch/Department Head category in the annual **ALA Survey of Library Salaries**.

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COLORADO SALARIES LAG BEHIND NATIONAL FIGURES

Average Salaries for Public Library Positions with ALA-MLS
for Regional, National and Colorado Libraries

Library Position	Medium-sized Libraries Serving 25, 000 - 99,999			Large-sized Libraries Serving 100,000 and Greater		
	West/ Southwest	US Total	Colorado with MLS	West/ Southwest	US Total	Colorado with MLS
Director	$ 57,844	$ 53,944	$ 47,595	$ 75,860	$ 72,480	$ 70,753
Assistant Director	$ 45,839	$ 43,419	Not Available	$ 58,182	$ 55,116	$ 48,852
Branch / Department Head	$ 39,787	$ 38,283	$ 35,409	$ 44,288	$ 42,009	$ 38,646
Reference / Adult Services	$ 35,577	$ 33,154	$ 29,473	$ 37,034	$ 35,040	$ 32,527
Cataloger	$ 37,350	$ 33,294	$ 31,409	$ 36,765	$ 34,612	$ 31,134
Children's / Young Adult	$ 34,394	$ 33,175	$ 31,058	$ 38,693	$ 35,468	$ 31,764
Beginning Librarian	$ 27,922	$ 25,282	$ 30,336	$ 27,799	$ 27,368	$ 29,676

Colorado salaries fall behind national and regional averages for most professional public library positions. The good news is that beginning librarians, on average, started with higher salaries in Colorado than in other parts of the country. The bad news is that Colorado salaries for other positions lag behind national averages.

The West and Southwest region includes California, Alaska and Hawaii, which may help explain its higher average salaries.

National salary averages exceeded Colorado averages by 2 to 12 percent, depending on position and size of library.

Medium-sized libraries:

- 6% for Children's Librarians
- 11% for Reference
- 12% for Directors

Large-sized libraries:

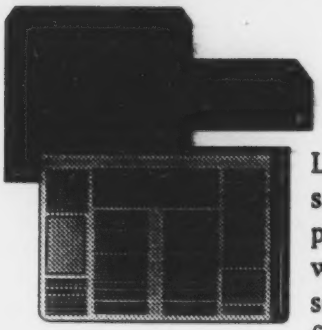
- 7% for Reference
- 11% for Assistant Directors
- 2% for Directors

For state and national comparisons, Colorado averages include only positions requiring an ALA-MLS degree. These are separated by size of population served and adjusted to 40 hours per week. ALA figures are adjusted to represent averages among public library positions only.

FAST FACTS

Recent Statistics from The Library Research Service

ED3/110.10/No. 117 March 25, 1996



PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICERS IN SELECTED PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1996

At the request of one of Colorado's public libraries, the Library Research Service conducted a survey to determine prevailing salaries and related data for public information officers (PIOs) in public libraries. The survey was sent to all Colorado public libraries with budgets of $675,000 and over and to public libraries nationwide serving 75,000-99,999. Sixteen responses were received including six from Colorado and ten from other states.

POSITION TITLES

The PIO function is served by public library staff bearing a variety of position titles. For full-time, professional positions, the following eight titles were reported by nine responding libraries:

Table 1. Position Titles for Full-Time Professional PIO Positions

Position Title	Library
Community Relations Coordinator	Oshkosh PL (WI)
Community Services Librarian	Carrollton PL (TX)
Head of Exhibits and Information	Newton Free Library (MA)
Public Affairs Manager	New Castle Co. Dept. of Libraries (DE)
Public Information Coordinator	Jefferson County PL (CO)
Public Information Officer	Arapahoe LD (CO) & Pikes Peak LD (CO)
Public Relations Coordinator	Herrick PL (Holland, MI)
Public Relations Manager	Douglas PLD (CO)

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Two responding libraries reported the following titles for full-time paraprofessional positions related to the public information function.

Table 2. Position Titles for Full-Time Paraprofessional PIO Positions

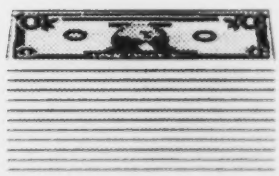
Position Title	Library
Display Artist	Hammond PL (IN)
Library Assistant for Programs and Public Relations	Davenport PL (IA)

Three responding libraries reported the following titles for part-time positions related to the public information function.

Table 3. Position Titles for Part-Time PIO or Related Positions

Position Title	Library
Market Research Assistant	Fort Collins PL (CO)
Public Information Director	Sterling Municipal Library (Baytown, TX)
Program Assistant for Public Information	Boulder Public Library (CO)

SALARIES



Salaries being paid to public information officers at responding libraries range from as low as $11,784 at Boulder Public Library (CO), where the Program Assistant for Public Information is a half-time paraprofessional position, to a salary range of $35,776-55,452 at Pikes Peak Library District (CO), where the Public Information Officer holds a full-time professional position. The following table ranks nine full-time professional PIO positions by annual salary.

Table 4. Full-Time Professional PIO Positions Ranked by Annual Salary

Library	Position Title	Annual Salary
Pikes Peak LD (CO)	Public Information Officer	$35,776-55,452
Arapahoe LD (CO)	Public Information Officer	$52,416
Douglas PLD (CO)	Public Relations Manager	$38,272
Newton Free L (MA)	Head of Exhibits & Information	$29,436-36,794
Jefferson Co PL (CO)	Public Information Coordinator	$35,818
Carrollton PL (TX)	Community Services Librarian	$34,000
New Castle Co Dept of Ls (DE)	Public Affairs Manager	$30,000
Herrick PL (Holland, MI)	Public Relations Coordinator	$25,918
Oshkosh PL (WI)	Community Relations Coordinator	$22,094

The following table reports salaries for the two full-time paraprofessional PIO positions.

Table 5. Full-Time Paraprofessional PIO Positions Ranked by Annual Salary

Library	Position Title	Annual Salary
Davenport PL (IA)	Library Assistant for Programs & Public Relations	$27,637
Hammond PL (IN)	Display Artist	$22,996

The following table ranks three part-time PIO positions by annual salary.

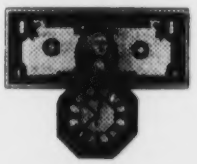
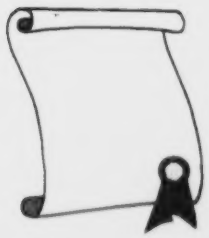


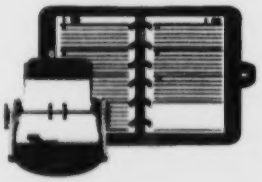
Table 6. Part-Time PIO Positions Ranked by Annual Salary

Library	Position Title	Annual Salary
Sterling Municipal Library (Baytown, TX)	Public Information Director	$11,981
Fort Collins PL (CO)	Market Research Assistant	$11,817
Boulder Public Library (CO)	Program Assistant for Public Information	$11,784

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS



Nine of the positions reported require a bachelor's degree in one or more of the following fields of study: advertising, art, communications, English, journalism, marketing, public relations, or another related field. Two positions required master's degrees in library and information science. A single position required only two years of college. In addition to these requirements, incumbents also have degrees in such diverse fields as the fine arts, home economics, and medical technology.



Nine of the reported positions also have experience requirements ranging from one year to five-to-seven years. Areas in which experience is required, other than the above-mentioned fields of study, include community relations, computer graphics, graphic arts, management, program planning, publications.

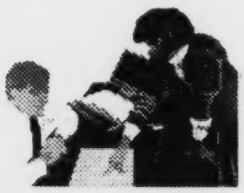
All of the incumbents exceed such experience requirements dramatically. Such requirements were addressed for seven out of nine full-time professional PIO positions. Of those seven, four have 15 or more years of experience and another has over 10 years of experience. The least experienced of these staff have been in the field for at least three years. Of the two part-time professionals reported, one has 12 years experience and the other has been in the field four years. The three part-timers reported the widest range of experience: 15, six, and two years.

SUPERVISION

Seven of the reported PIO positions have supervisory responsibilities. The number of other staff supervised ranges from one to four positions. There appears to be some correlation between the number of others supervised and annual salary, but it is by no means a perfect one.

Table 7. PIO Positions Ranked by Number of Staff Supervised and Annual Salary

Number Supervised	Library	Position Title	Annual Salary
4	Pikes Peak LD (CO)	Public Info Officer	$35,776-55,452
3	Jefferson Co PL (CO)	Public Info Coordinator	$35,818
2	Newton Free L (MA)	Head of Exhibits & Info	$29,436-36,794
1.5	Arapahoe LD (CO)	Public Info Officer	$52,416
1	Douglas PLD (CO)	Public Relations Manager	$38,272
1	Oshkosh PL (WI)	Community Relations Manager	$22,094
1	Sterling Municipal L (Baytown, TX)	Public Info Director (1/2 FTE)	$11,981



For a copy of the questionnaire employed in this survey or a paper or disk copy of the data file, please contact: Louise Conner, Administrative Assistant, Library Research Service, 201 E. Colfax Ave., Suite 309, Denver, CO 80203-1799, voice 303.866.6906, fax 303.866.6940, e-mail <Conner_L@cde.state.co.us>.

CORRECTION TO FAST FACTS NO. 114 (JANUARY 8, 1996)

On the second page, the last table includes one incorrect figure. Basalt Library District charges $0.20 per page for photocopies, not $0.25. Thanks to Jean Winkler for catching this error and notifying us.

FAST FACTS

Recent Statistics from The Library Research Service

ED3/110.10/No. 118 April 2, 1996

WAGES OF COLORADO LIBRARIANS & LIBRARY ASSISTANTS IN CONTEXT 1994

If you are a professional librarian or a library assistant, you probably feel like your job is a combination of several other types of jobs, most of which are a lot better paid. Perhaps you are right. Consider the following data excerpted from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment's February 1996 publication: **Occupational Wages in Colorado**: *Average Wages for Over 700 Occupations.*

In 1994, professional librarians in Colorado earned an average hourly wage of $17.33, while library technicians and assistants averaged $10.75 and $9.20 per hour, respectively. The following tables provide context for these figures by ranking average hourly wages of librarians and library assistants with related occupations. Note: OES (Occupational Employment Statistics) codes are included to assist readers in other states in replicating these tables using data from their own state labor departments.

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Table 1. Wages of Professional Librarians and Related Occupations in Colorado, 1994

OES Code	Occupation Title	Average Hourly Wage
31226	Computer Science Teachers, Postsecondary	$25.40
15005	Education Administrators	25.11
21905	Management Analysts	24.52
13002	Financial Managers	24.36
34058	Athletes, Coaches, Umpires, & Related Workers	22.09
13011	Marketing, Advertising, Public Relations Managers	21.87
25102	Systems Analysts, Electronic Data Processing	21.65
31210	Social Science Teachers, Postsecondary	21.30
13005	Personnel, Training, & Labor Relations Managers	21.21
21117	Budget Analysts	20.28
25103	Data Base Administrators	19.96
27105	Urban and Regional Planners	19.60
25302	Operations & Systems Researchers & Analysts	19.34
34056	Producers, Directors, Actors, & Other Entertainers	19.27
25105	Computer Programmers	18.90
31216	English & Foreign Language Teachers, Postsecondary	18.90
31308	Teachers, Secondary School	18.20
32314	Speech-Language Pathologists & Audiologists	18.12
34005	Technical Writers	17.87
21511	Personnel, Training, and Labor Relations Specialists	17.74
31502	**Librarians, Professional**	**17.33**
31305	Teachers, Elementary School	17.03
31511	Curators, Archivists, Museum Technicians, & Restorers	9.93

Source: **Occupational Wages in Colorado**: *Average Wages for Over 700 Occupations* (Denver: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, February 1996).

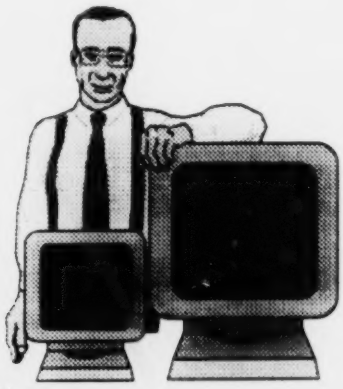


Table 2. Wages of Library Assistants and Related Occupations in Colorado, 1994

OES Code	Occupation Title	Average Hourly Wage
21999	Management Support Workers	$17.28
25104	Computer Support Specialists	16.17
27305	Social Workers	14.54
55335	Customer Service Representatives	13.69
28305	Paralegal Personnel	13.49
25108	Computer Programmer Aides	13.27
53911	Proofreaders & Copy Markers	12.82
55317	Correspondence Clerks	12.39
49999	Sales & Related Workers	11.53
53705	Municipal Clerks	11.50
56011	Computer Operators	10.91
53508	Bill & Account Collectors	10.81
31505	**Technical Assistants, Library**	**10.75**
55341	Payroll & Timekeeping Clerks	10.15
55108	Secretaries (Except Legal & Medical)	10.12
58099	Material Recording, Scheduling, & Distributing Workers	9.58
92546	Bindery Machine Operators & Tenders	9.56
56002	Billing, Posting, & Calculating Machine Operators	9.26
53902	**Library Assistants & Bookmobile Drivers**	**9.20**
56005	Duplicating Machine Operators	8.93
34044	Merchandise Displayers	7.70
53102	Bank Tellers	7.29
31521	Teachers Aides, Paraprofessional	6.90

Source: **Occupational Wages in Colorado**: *Average Wages for Over 700 Occupations* (Denver: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, February 1996).

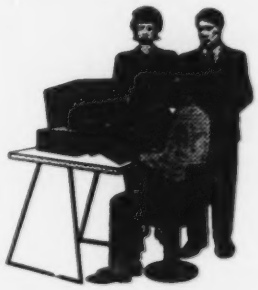
FAST FACTS

Recent Statistics from The Library Research Service

ED3/110.10/No. 119 April 8, 1996

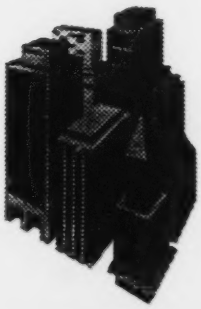
LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

With over half of their outlets in non-metropolitan areas, public libraries are well-situated to be on-ramps to the Information Superhighway for residents of outlying and rural areas.



Public libraries can serve as on-ramps to the Information Superhighway--access points to electronically networked information for those who cannot afford --or otherwise easily obtain--a computer with a modem and a subscription to a commercial online service or a non-profit Internet access provider. The nation's public libraries are especially well-situated to play this role in non-metropolitan areas where the availability of computers, access providers, and an adequate telecommunications infrastructure cannot be taken for granted.

How are public libraries distributed among central cities, suburbs, and outlying areas? This question was posed to the LRS by the American Library Association's Office for Research and Statistics on behalf of ALA's new Office of Information Technology Policy. The answer is found in the national public library database produced annually by the Federal-State Cooperative System (FSCS) for Public Library Data--a joint venture of the National Center for Education Statistics, the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, the state library agencies, and public libraries nationwide.



The following table reports numbers and percentages of public library outlets (including central libraries, branches, and headquarters of freestanding bookmobile services) by metropolitan status for the state and the nation in FY 1993

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Public Library Outlets in the U.S. by Metropolitan Status, FY 1993

Metropolitan Status	Public Library Outlets, FY 1993			
	Colorado		United States	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Central city	45	18.2%	2,855	17.0%
In metro area, but not central city	72	29.1%	5,138	30.6%
Not in metro area	130	52.6%	8,799	52.4%
Total	247	100.0%	16,792	100.0%

Source: Federal-State Cooperative System (FSCS) for Public Library Data

According to these figures, over half of public library outlets in the state and the nation are located in non-metropolitan areas. In outlying cities and towns and rural communities, public libraries are likely to be the only conveniently located, non-commercial locations that are open beyond regular business hours, equipped to access electronic information resources, and staffed by personnel trained to assist the public in using them. And, where non-metropolitan public libraries lack such hours, equipment, and staff, their location combined with their mandate to ensure equal access to information should put them at the top of the list to receive the funding, equipment, and training required to fulfill this important new role.

FAST FACTS

Recent Statistics from The Library Research Service

ED3/110.10/No. 120 August 13, 1996

MATERIALS CHALLENGES 1995 FOR COLORADO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

CHALLENGES TO DISPLAYS

This year, the single most common reason for a challenge was "homosexuality." This accounted for almost two-thirds of all complaints. The next most common objection was "unsuited to age group." Both objections challenged displays in Colorado.

The challenges in Colorado public libraries in 1995 included 3 displays; one by P-FLAG at Mesa County Public Library District, "*Banned Books Week*" and "Population and Planet Earth" at Jefferson County Public Library.

In Mesa County, the library received 53 challenges against a display by Parents and Friends of Gays and Lesbians (P-FLAG). The library also received an equal number of supportive comments, after widespread community discussions about the display. The Board of Trustees voted to keep the policy allowing community groups to sign up to use display space.

In Jefferson County Public Library, *Banned Books Week* displays were challenged for the second year. Objections ranged from nudity, sexually explicit materials, and fear of children seeing displays to depictions of suicide and showing "questionable values." Another exhibit from the Colorado Population Coalition was challenged on political grounds.

60 TITLES CHALLENGED

In 1995, 16 public libraries reported 116 challenges made to 60 items in Colorado. This compares to 1994, when 24 libraries reported 91 challenges to 81 items. For 1995, ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom received 740 reports of materials challenges.

In 1995, over half of all Colorado libraries reporting materials challenges were in metropolitan areas with populations greater than 100,000.

Over half of the challenged titles were intended for children and young adults, up from 40% in 1994.

Four items were removed: a blank book, an out of date weight-loss book, an infomercial and a book judged poorly written.

Four items were moved to another part of the collection; mostly from children's to young adult or adult areas. The rest of the materials were retained with no change in shelving and availability or the action was dropped.

Almost two-thirds of all challenged titles hold copyrights of 1990 or newer, up from one half last year. One title stands out with the oldest copyright, 1957. This is Judy Blume's **Forever**, which also appears on ALA's 1995 list of most challenged titles.

CHALLENGES BY REGIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE SYSTEM (RLSS)	MATERIALS CHALLENGES		LIBRARIES WITH CHALLENGES	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Arkansas Valley RLSS	1	1%	1	6%
Central Colorado RLSS	34	29%	6	38%
High Plains RLSS	11	9%	3	19%
Pathfinder RLSS	54	47%	2	13%
Plains & Peaks RLSS	13	11%	1	6%
Southwest RLSS	1	1%	1	6%
Three Rivers RLSS	2	2%	2	13%
TOTAL	116		16	

PUBLIC LIBRARY	NUMBER OF TITLES CHALLENGED	NUMBER OF CHALLENGES
Jefferson Co PL	13	17
Pikes Peak LD	13	13
Douglas PLD	7	5
Fort Collins PL	6	6
Loveland PL	6	4
Denver PL	3	7
Arapahoe LD	2	2
Boulder PL	2	2
Aurora PL	1	1
Canon City PL	1	1
Durango PL	1	1
Fort Morgan PL	1	1
Grand CO LD	1	1
Mesa PLD	1	53
Montrose LD	1	1
Summit CO PL	1	1
TOTAL (No. libraries = 16)	60	116

TITLES WITH MULTIPLE CHALLENGES	NUMBER
Banned Books Week - ALA/Jefferson Co PL	3
The Duke Who Outlawed Jelly Beans by Johnny Valentine	2
Rhyme Stew by Roald Dahl	2

CHALLENGED TITLES EXAMINED BY TYPE AND INTENDED AGE OF AUDIENCE

TYPE OF ITEM	PERCENT
Fiction	65%
Nonfiction	32%
Unknown	3%

INTENDED AGE	PERCENT
Children	40%
Young Adult	12%
Adult	43%

CHALLENGED TITLES EXAMINED BY FORMAT AND COPYRIGHT

FORMAT	PERCENT
Book	72%
Video	10%
Display	8%
Periodical	3%
Audio	2%

COPYRIGHT YEAR	PERCENT
1990 - 1994	60%
1985 - 1989	17%
1980 - 1984	5%
1970 - 1979	10%
Other	8%

TOP FIVE REASONS FOR CHALLENGING MATERIALS

REASON	PERCENT
Homosexuality	42%
Sexually Explicit	13%
Unsuited to Age Group	10%
Violence	7%
Offensive Language	6%

RESOLUTION OF CHALLENGE	PERCENT
No Change in Status	70%
Action Dropped	10%
Gone (removed from collection)	7%
Moved/reclassified	7%
Other	5%
Damaged and Replaced	2%

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FAST FACTS

Recent Statistics from The Library Research Service

ED3/110.10/No. 121 August 9, 1996

SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTERS IN COLORADO: A 1995-96 STATUS REPORT

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."

Whoever said it, it could not have been truer of Colorado's school library media centers (LMCs) in 1996. The 1995-96 school year was another year of dramatic changes associated with the information superhighway, but it was also the second year in a row of alarming LMC staff cuts.

Following is a brief summary of the good news and the bad news about LMCs:

The Good News

- School libraries really have become multimedia information centers. Almost 28,000 CD-ROM products are available via the state's LMCs--an increase of more than three and a half times since 1994. Video collections have almost doubled in size during the same period.
- In addition to expanding their own collections beyond print formats, LMCs are also at the forefront of the electronic information revolution. Almost two out of three LMCs provide Internet access to teachers and other school staff, and almost half provide it to students. A major on-ramp to the information superhighway is the Access Colorado Library & Information Network (ACLIN). Since 1994, the proportion of LMCs providing Internet--and specifically ACLIN--access has almost tripled.
- Almost a third of LMCs provide electronic access to the full-text of periodical literature. This proportion has almost doubled in two years.

The Bad News

- Library media staff in Colorado's public schools is being deprofessionalized. Statewide, the number of LMC staff was reduced by seven percent from 1994 levels, but the number of endorsed professionals was reduced by almost twice as much. Thus, in 1996, there were nearly 100 fewer library media specialists than two years before.
- The ratio of total LMC staff to students was reduced by 10 percent between 1994 and 1996, but the ratio of library media specialists to students was reduced by half.
- Thus, it is not surprising that the amount of time spent by LMC staff in collaboration with classroom teachers dropped by one quarter during this interval.

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LMC STAFFING

Between 1994 and 1996, overall LMC staffing was reduced seriously and de-professionalized to an alarming degree.

Highlights:

- Ninety-five library media specialist positions--one out of eight--disappeared.
- Twenty-two staff who lacked library media credentials, but who were certified teachers, lost their jobs or were re-assigned to classrooms.
- Twenty-two other staff--chiefly library media aides--also lost their positions in LMCs

Table 1. LMC Staff, 1994-96

Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1994	1996	% Change
Library media specialists	772	677	-12%
Staff with 18 hours in library media	172	180	5%
Certified teachers (without library media)	163	141	-13%
BOCES or other contract staff	9	9	0%
Other staff	845	823	-3%
Total LMC staff	**1,961**	**1,830**	**-7%**

As the number of library media staff dropped between 1994 and 1996, the ratios of library media specialists to students and of total LM staff to students declined. Library media specialists per 100 students plummeted by half, while total LMC staff per 100 students dropped a noticeable 10 percent.

Table 2. Staffing Levels, 1994-96

Staff-to-Student Ratio	1994	1996	% Change
Library media specialists per 100 students	0.12	.08	-50%
Total LMC staff per 100 students	0.31	.28	-10%

Due to these cuts in LMC staffing levels and ratios, LMC staff were unable to spend as many hours per typical week collaborating with teachers. The only such activity in which LMC staff invested more hours in 1996 than in 1994 was evaluating students' work.

Table 3. Hours Spent in Selected Instructional Activities by LMC Staff, 1994-96

Hours per typical week spent ...	1994	1996	% Change
Identifying materials to support instructional units developed by teachers	6,872	5,271	-23%
Teaching cooperatively	6,509	5,158	-21%
Planning instructional units with teachers	3,161	2,384	-25%
Evaluating students' work	1,820	2,241	23%
Total selected hours	**18,362**	**15,054**	**-18%**

LMC COLLECTIONS

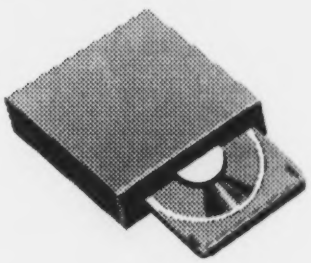
Between 1994 and 1996, collections in Colorado's school library media centers began to change dramatically. These changes are evident in both total numbers of items held and ratios of items held to students.

Highlights:

- The size of LMC book collections was virtually unchanged between 1994 and 1996.
- LMC holdings in eletronic formats grew dramatically. Numbers of CD-ROMs more than tripled, while numbers of videos almost doubled. Software collections also grew, although at a more modest rate, just keeping up with enrollments.

Table 4. LMC Collections, 1994-96

Format	1994	1996	% Change
Volumes	10,059,330	10,113,835	1%
Videos	157,206	284,272	81%
Software packages	76,457	85,353	12%
Print periodical subscriptions	43,696	40,006	-8%
CD-ROMs	7,827	27,457	251%
Newspaper subscriptions	2,366	2,951	25%



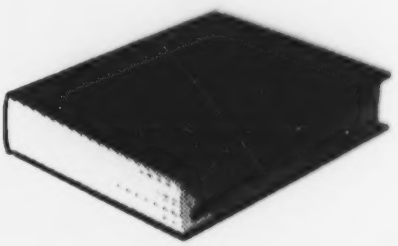


Table 5. Collection Ratios, 1994-96

Ratio	1994	1996	% Change
Volumes per student	18	18	0%
Videos per 100 students	17	26	53%
Software packages per 100 students	5	5	0%
Print periodical subscriptions per 100 students	6	5	-17%

ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION

This revolution can be traced to the migration of information from print to electronic form. LMCs provide access to locally owned or leased information in electronic form and search online databases and networks, such as ACLIN and the Internet.

More LMCs are purchasing or leasing electronic access to periodical literature.

Highlights:
Between 1994 and 1996 ...

- LMCs purchased or leased electronic indexes to periodical literature increased by almost one-fifth.
- The proportion of LMCs purchasing or leasing electronic full-text of periodicals almost doubled.

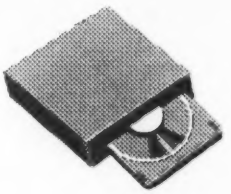


Table 6. Periodicals in Electronic Form, 1994-96

Type of access	1994	1996	% Change
Index only	22%	26%	18%
Full-text	16%	30%	88%

More and more, LMCs are reaching beyond their own local collections to those of other LMCs in their districts or to remote databases. Over half have local online catalogs, and over one quarter have district-wide online catalogs. Online database searching dropped slightly, probably due to the increasing availability of CD-ROM database products.

Table 7. Online Catalogs & Databases, 1994-96

Feature	1994	1996	% Change
Have a stand-alone local online catalog	46%	56%	22%
Have a district-wide online catalog	20%	28%	40%
Provide online database search services	29%	25%	-14%

Between 1994 and 1996, the proportions of LMCs offering the Access Colorado Library and Information Network (ACLIN) to different client groups increased. The state network is now in use by two out of three LMC staff and teachers and almost half of students.

Table 8. ACLIN Use via LMCs, 1994-96

User Group	1994	1996	% Change
ACLIN available to LMC staff	49%	66%	35%
ACLIN available to teachers and staff	47%	60%	28%
ACLIN available to students	43%	47%	9%

During the same interval, the number of LMCs providing Internet access to teachers and staff almost tripled, while those providing such access to students increased more than two and a half times.

Table 9. Internet Access via LMCs, 1994-96

User Group	1994	1996	% Change
Internet available to LMC staff	24%	64%	167%
Internet available to teachers and staff	21%	60%	186%
Internet available to students	16%	43%	169%

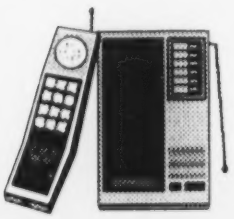
In addition to these various forms of electronic access to information, basic information technologies also became more prevalent in LMCs.

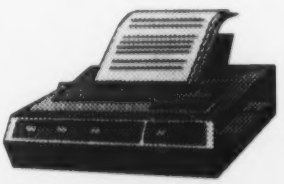
Highlights:

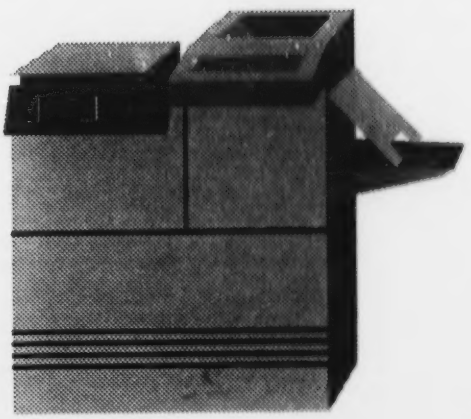
- The proportion of LMCs with fax machines increased by more than three-quarters.
- Proportions of LMCs with touch tone telephone service and computer modems increased modestly. Nine out of ten LMCs have telephones, and three out of four have computers with modems.
- The proportion of LMCs with photocopiers--two out of five--is virtually unchanged, having decreased by a negligible two percent.

Table 10. Basic Technology in LMCs, 1994-96

Basic technology	1994	1996	% Change
Telephone with touch tone service	78%	85%	9%
Photocopier	43%	42%	-2%
Fax machine	18%	32%	77%
Computer modem	69%	74%	7%







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LMC SERVICES

Likely as a result of these major shifts in key resources--both staff and collections--the services provided by library media centers (LMCs) during a typical week changed dramatically.

Highlights:

- Visits to LMCs dropped slightly, but circulation increased by over half.
- Resource sharing efforts among LMCs and other libraries (chiefly public and academic) increased sharply. There are two likely causes of this development. One is that, through such efforts, LMC staff may be struggling to take up some of the slack created by the new investments being made in non-print--chiefly electronic--formats. The other likelihood is that these increases in resource sharing are the fruits of school participation in the Access Colorado Library and Information Network (ACLIN).

Table 6. Weekly LMC Services, 1994-96

Type of transaction	1994	1996	% Change
LMC visits	793,318	743,148	-6%
Circulation transactions	878,685	1,370,507	56%
Items obtained from other libraries or document delivery services	21,846	32,178	47%
Items loaned to other libraries	12,528	11,831	-6%

Ratio measures of LMC service reiterate these points. Clearly, the declining size of LMC staff and collections and the advent of the statewide resource sharing network combined to create overwhelming "push-and-pull" forces in this direction.

Highlights:

- On a per student basis, visits to LMCs and circulation of materials remained virtually unchanged between 1994 and 1996. New measures are needed to reflect increasing reliance on electronic resources and remote access from classrooms and homes.
- Although still net borrowers, LMCs took a big step toward becoming net lenders of materials.

Table 7. Service Ratios, 1994-96

Ratio	1994	1996	% Change
LMC visits per student	1.2	1.1	-8%
Circulation per student	1.4	1.3	-7%
Net loan rate (items loaned/items borrowed)	0.33	0.40	21%

LMC EXPENDITURES

The prime mover of retrenchment in LMC collection development is obvious: funding for LMC materials dropped sharply between 1994 and 1996.

Highlights:

- Investments from school budgets in books and other printed materials rose modestly, while investments from other sources in such materials climbed. But, the increased expenditures from other sources came nowhere close to making up for the meager increases in school budgets.
- Despite the dramatic increases in CD-ROMs, videos, and software packages in LMC collections, school investments in non-print materials rose only modestly, while funds from other sources for such materials dropped. Evidently, it is easier to persuade other funders to pick up the slack in book budgets than it is to convince them to purchase videos or CD-ROMs on the school's behalf. Fortunately, costs of materials in most electronic formats are either dropping or at least growing at a slower rate than the costs of print materials, particularly periodicals.
- The cut of over half a million dollars from supplies and other operating costs cannot be readily explained with certainty. It seems likely, however, that LMCs which lose their library media specialists would also see parts of their budgets disappear.

Table 8. LMC Expenditures from School Budgets, 1994-96

Category	1994	1996	% Change
Books & other printed materials	$5,886,829	6,207,007	5%
Non-print materials	$1,488,037	1,516,107	2%
Supplies & other operating costs	$2,249,818	1,631,977	-27%
Total materials expenditures	**$9,869,346**	**9,355,091**	**-5%**

Table 9. LMC Expenditures from Other Sources, 1994-96

Category	1994	1996	% Change
Books & other printed materials	$929,478	1,032,372	11%
Non-print materials	$458,329	307,000	-33%
Supplies & other operating costs	$115,080	255,347	122%
Total materials expenditures	**$1,508,088**	**1,594,719**	**6%**

On a per student basis, LMC funding rose 13 percent between 1994 and 1996. This increase was driven largely by increased spending on books and other print materials, as spending on non-print items dropped by a similar percentage. Spending on supplies and other operating costs was virtually unchanged.

Table 10. LMC Expenditures per Student, 1994-96

Category	1994	1996	% Change
Books & other printed materials	$10.72	$11.90	11%
Non-print materials	$2.47	$2.17	-12%
Supplies & other operating costs	$1.66	$1.69	2%
Total materials expenditures	**$15.54**	**$17.51**	**13%**

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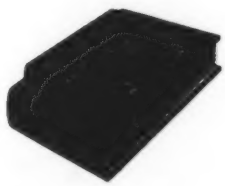
Recent Statistics from The Library Research Service

ED3/110.10/No. 122 November 13, 1996

Libraries Nationwide Report Circulation Policies



Do circulation policies vary widely throughout the country? How do the policies of other metropolitan libraries in the U.S. compare with those of Colorado?

To find out, in June 1996, we surveyed two dozen metropolitan public libraries nationwide, ten of which are Colorado public libraries. These libraries reported their circulation policies for different formats, and told us how they inform patrons of due dates.

Similar Trends Discovered for Different Formats

After compiling results of the surveys, we found a reassuring trend:

Circulation policies for most format materials (books, periodicals, audio cassettes, and audio CDs) are fairly uniform among libraries surveyed.

	Loan Periods	Grace Periods	Overdue Rates	Maximum Fines
Colorado Libraries	21 days	2 to 3 days	$.05 to $.10 per item	$2.00 to $5.00 per item
Other U.S. Libraries	21 days	None	$.05 to $.10 per item	Zero to $10.00 per item

Individual reports for each format are available from the Library Research Service.

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Circulation Policies in Detail

- ***Loan Periods:*** Most Colorado and U.S. libraries surveyed reported loan periods of ***21 days*** for most types of materials (excluding videos and CD-ROMs). Half of the Colorado libraries that lend periodicals reported shorter lending periods of ***7 to 14 days***

- ***Grace Periods:*** In Colorado, most grace periods for the familiar formats are ***2 to 3 days***, while most metropolitan U.S. libraries extend ***no grace period at all.***

- ***Overdue Rates:*** Most Colorado and U.S. libraries surveyed charge ***$.05 to $.10*** for items excluding videos and CD-ROMs.

  We also found that three U.S. libraries routinely assess a split adult/child rate:

$.10/$.02	Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, PA
$.25/$.10	Multnomah County Public Library, OR, and Tucson-Pima Library, AZ

- ***Maximum Fines:*** Of the Colorado libraries surveyed that circulate periodicals, the largest single group charges a maximum fine of ***$2.00.*** Most Colorado libraries surveyed also collect maximum fines of ***$3.00 to $5.00*** for books, cassettes, and audio CDs. Other U.S. libraries surveyed charge amounts ranging from ***zero to $10.00*** for formats excluding videos and CD-ROMs.

  The same three libraries shown above also set maximum fines according to split adult/child rates for all formats circulated, except video and CD-ROM:

$6.00/$2.00	Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, PA
$7.50/$3.00	Tucson-Pima Library, AZ
$10.00/$5.00	Multnomah County Public Library, OR

  In Colorado, an adult/child rate for maximum fines is charged by the Arapahoe Library District: ***$5.00/$2.00*** for books, audio cassettes, audio CDs, and videos.

  Other U.S. libraries collect the ***replacement cost of the item*** for all formats circulated. (Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County, OH, and Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, PA.)

Video and CD-ROM Circulation Policies Are Tighter

The surveys showed that the libraries impose generally tighter circulation policies for videos and CD-ROMs than for other format materials.

- Videos circulate for shorter periods and incur larger potential maximum fines.
- CD-ROMs--where offered by libraries--circulate for up to ***21 days***, but call for higher overdue rates ***(up to $1.00 per day)***

In Colorado, surveyed libraries allow grace periods of various lengths for CD-ROMs; but such grace periods are generally not granted at all in other U.S. libraries--a trend observed for all formats. In the Colorado and U.S. libraries surveyed, grace periods are not given for videos. Maximum fines for CD-ROMs vary among the Colorado and U.S. libraries, with the highest at ***$10.00 per item***. Maximum fines for videos are significantly higher than for CD-ROMs, up to ***$50.00 per item***.

Videos in Detail:

- ***Loan Periods:*** Half of Colorado libraries and 61% of U.S. libraries report that videos circulate for ***7 days***.
- ***Grace Periods:*** The majority of Colorado and U.S. libraries offer ***no grace period*** for overdue videos.
- ***Overdue Rates:*** Colorado libraries are in line with other metropolitan U.S. libraries, most charging ***$1.00 per item per day***.
- ***Maximum Fines:*** In Colorado, maximum fines for videos range from ***$3.00*** (Weld Library District) to ***$25.00*** (Jefferson County Public Library). Within that range, 30% of Colorado libraries charge a ***$5.00 fee***, and another 30%, ***$10.00 fee***. In other U.S. libraries maximum fines range from a low of ***$2.00*** up to replacement cost of the item, with 31% of those surveyed assessing only ***$5.00***.

  Adult/Child fines are structured as follows:

  $5.00/$2.00 Arapahoe Library District, CO
  $10.00/$5.00 Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, PA
  $7.50/$3.00 Tucson/Pima Library, AZ

  The highest maximum fine for videos reported outside Colorado is ***$50.00***, charged by the Oakland (CA) Public Library. Two U.S. libraries (Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County and Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh) charge patrons to replace missing items ***at cost,*** as is their policy with other materials.

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CD-ROMs in Detail:

Half of the 24 libraries surveyed do not have CD-ROMs available for check out.

In Colorado, only three libraries (Aurora, Pikes Peak, Weld) that circulate CD-ROMs responded, along with eight libraries elsewhere in the U.S. Their responses are summarized below:

- ***Loan Periods:*** Most Colorado and U.S. libraries reported loan periods of ***21 days*** for CD-ROMs.

- ***Grace Periods:*** Colorado Libraries reported ***2 to 6 days***, while most U.S. libraries reported ***no grace period*** is offered, following the overall pattern.

- ***Overdue Rates:*** Colorado libraries reported daily overdue rates for CD-ROMs of ***$.05, $.50 and $1.00 per item***. The $1.00 rate is also preferred by most U.S. libraries offering CD-ROMs. Two U.S. libraries (Tucson/Pima Library and Multnomah County) charge a split adult/child rate of ***$.25/$.10***, as is done for other formats.

- ***Maximum Fines:*** Two Colorado libraries charge ***$10.00***, while U.S. libraries report rates ranging from ***$5.00 to $10.00***. Adult/child rates for Multnomah County are ***$10.00/$5.00***, and for Tucson/Pima are ***$7.50/$3.00***, the same amounts charged for most other formats.

How Do Libraries Inform Borrowers of Due Dates?

Of the libraries surveyed, 41% reported their methods for letting borrowers know when materials are due.

- Most of these libraries give borrowers a ***loose, disposable slip*** stamped with the item's due date. One library (Boulder, CO) uses a bookmark for this purpose. Only one library (Jefferson County, CO) places the slip into a pocket affixed to the item.

- Two libraries (Tucson-Pima and Weld) ***allow users to check materials out themselves*** by utilizing self-serve stations and stamping their own due dates.

- Libraries also use these other methods: ***affixing white stickers stamped with the due date*** to the front or back of the item; or ***notifying users verbally*** of the date items may be renewed by telephone, as well as reminding them of the next due date during the telephone renewal.

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